



Power Assisted Hand Truck

by Keith Raney, App # 10/826444

ABSTRACT

A power assisted hand truck is provided, which includes a generally vertically oriented rigid frame having a top end, a bottom end, a front load receiving side, a rear side, and a load bearing member joined to the front load receiving side of the frame. This hand truck includes a pair of hand truck wheels rotatably joined laterally towards the bottom end of the frame so that the frame, and thus the hand truck, can be wheeled about. A motor is rigidly joined to the frame and is configured to rotate a power assistance wheel, which is rotatably joined to the frame towards the bottom end of the back side such that power assisted translational motion is imparted to the frame when both the motor and the power assistance wheel are engaged. Thus, the user can engage this power assistance system to significantly reduce his or her work required to push a heavy load on the hand truck, especially when moving the heavy load up inclines. Some embodiments locate the power assistance wheel in a generally centered position between the pair of hand truck wheels such that load balancing stability is improved.